

Glastonbury Human Relations Commission

Regular Meeting – September 5, 2017

Meeting Minutes

Present: John Glezen, Nick Daukas, Patricia Darling

Absent: David Peniston, Virginia Roscoe

Staff: Durlene Mikkelson, Sherri Tanguay

Public Comments: None

Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the June 6, 2017 meeting were approved unanimously as submitted with one change – the civil rights activist group TALK – acronym stands for Truth and Action in Love, not Truth in Action and Love.

Affirmative Action & Recruitment Update – Sherri Tanguay:

- Sherri presented the first Affirmative Action and Recruitment Report of the new fiscal year for review by the Commission;
- Sherri noted that the new EEO categories are now on the plan, as required by law;
- New positions listed on the report, and the position of Police Officer will be on the next report; and
- Four of the new positions posted are part-time positions.

Housing Report – Virginia Roscoe:

- Ginny was absent, but did e-mail that there was no new information as compared to June's report to report on.

Human Services Department Report – Durlene Mikkelson: presented the report to the Commission. Highlights:

- Fuel Bank- five households have received \$1590 in assistance since 7/1/17. This prevents shutoffs; reinstate on budget forgiveness program;
- Discretionary Funds- three households received \$1,000 in assistance since 7/1/17. This assists with rent, prescriptions, purchasing a mattress;
- Food Bank - \$1863 in purchased foods since 7/1/17. This assisted 71 households;
- Back to School Program served 181 youth;
- This summer seniors enjoyed :
 - Lenny and Joe's restaurant - 35 people
 - Jimmies of Savin Rock - 35 people
 - Essex Train/Boat ride - 30 people
 - NYC Botanical Gardens - 35 people

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- Boston Tall Ships -71 people
- Evening dinner/dance with Elderly Brothers - 80 people
- TAAG weeklong adventure based program for male youths;
- Free breakfast/lunch program at Welles Village - 25 youth/day;
- Yoga and Mindfulness group for elementary school aged children;
- 43rd annual summer show, "Big, the Musical" cast comprised of 140 youth ages 7 to 18. Multigenerational effort with additional 60 volunteers made up of youth, parents and grandparents
 - Cast donated to the town's food pantry, holiday toyshop, backpack program and military personnel serving overseas.

Patricia Darling

Patti mentioned to all that a TALK event is scheduled for Monday, September 11 at the South Congregational Church – 6:30 PM – 9:00 PM.

New Business:

John Glezen:

John introduced an advertisement that the Commission has run from time to time in the *Glastonbury Citizen*. The advertisement identifies discrimination that can occur to residents for various reasons, and that the Commission stands ready to assist in those circumstances.

The Commission agreed unanimously to place the advertisement, and discussed potential updated wording. John will work to update the advertisement, and this will be an agenda item for the December 5 meeting.

Commission terms: John discussed the terms each member of the Commission has, and mentioned that Patti, Ginny and he have terms that will be ending this year. John announced that at the end of his term he will step down as Chair of the Commission, and will leave the Commission. John mentioned that he has been honored to be a member of such a worthwhile commission since 1993, but feels the time is right for him to step down.

Next meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 5, 2017 at 6 PM at the Riverfront Community Center conference room.

Adjournment: With no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Nick Daukas